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THE MONTHLY GULL BULLETIN

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

VOLUME 11 SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH, 1929 NUMBER 3

THE ANNUAL ELECTION: The recent Annual Meeting was resumed, the President, Dr. F. W. D'Evelyn, calling it to order, at 8 o'clock P.M., on the 14th of February at the usual place of meeting.

The election of officers then took place with the following result:

President .....Bert Harwell	Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens
First Vice-Pres.....Mrs. Junea Kelly	Director.....Dr. F. W. D'Evelyn
Second Vice-Pres.....Brighton C. Cain	Director.....C. A. Bryant
Rec. Secty.....Mrs. Bessie W. Kibbe	Director.....Miss C. C. Pringle
Correspond. Secty.....C. B. Lastreto	

The election of Honorary President resulted in the elevation of Dr. F. W. D'Evelyn to that position.

Mr. Lastreto referred to the recent death of Lederett Mills Loomis as the loss of a good friend by the Association and eulogized his merits as a scientific ornithologist. Dr. D'Evelyn added further reference to Mr. Loomis' work for the California Academy of Sciences, especially around the trying times of the fire of 1906. Then the meeting adjourned out of respect for the memory of our valued and lamented friend.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING: The regular monthly meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific was called to order at 9 o'clock P. M., on the 14th of February, 1929, in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Bldg., San Francisco, by President Bert Harwell; Mrs. Kibbe occupied her position as secretary.

The following observations were reported: Mrs. Laura Stephens, white throated sparrow on University of California Campus; Miss Cockefair, black crowned night herons roosting in tree in west Oakland; Mr. C. A. Bryant, eight American scoters and 1500 or more black sea brandt on Tomales Bay, and more frequent observations of the white-tailed kite.

In the order of principal business for the evening, President Harwell reported upon the status of the State Bird Campaign. By his direction the more active co-operation of local clubs and organizations shall be secured. It appeared to be the sentiment of the meeting that the Association be prepared to face expenses in connection with the campaign, the matter being referred to the Board of Directors.

President Harwell on assuming his office made a very gracious expression of his appreciation for the honor that he had received, and manifested a purpose to meet his responsibilities and to lead the Association to the accomplishments of the purposes of its organization.

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DIRECTORS' MEETING: Immediately after the regular meeting President Harwell called the newly elected Board of Directors to a special meeting at 9:30 in the usual place.

The various routine business consequent with a change of administration was transacted; Mr. Charles Bryant was appointed Chairman of the Outing Committee.

Fifty Dollars was appropriated for the necessary expenses incurred by the State Bird Campaign Committee.

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MARCH MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific will be held on Thursday evening, the 14th of March, at 8 o'clock, in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Room 19, second floor, Ferry Bldg.

Mr. Joseph S. Dixon is to be our speaker of the evening on "The Economic Status of Some Common Hawks and Owls." This lecture will be illustrated with Lantern slides.

* * *

MARCH FIELD TRIP will be taken on Sunday, March 17th, to Point Bonita. Buy round trip tickets to Sausalito, 25c. Take Sausalito Ferry at 8:15 A. M. Bring luncheon and canteens. In case of rain the trip will be taken the following Sunday.

After passing Fort Baker the party will divide into two groups, one group taking the trail which leads over the hill, overlooking the ocean, to Fort Barry, thence along the south side of Rodeo Lagoon to the beach where luncheon will be eaten. The other group will follow the automobile road through the tunnel and along the marsh and north side of Rodeo Lagoon to the beach, the two groups meeting for luncheon. After luncheon those who wish to do so may visit the lighthouse.

Busses will be at Point Bonita for those wishing to ride back to Sausalito. Round trip twelve miles.—C. A. Bryant, Leader.

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APRIL FIELD TRIP will be to Lake Merced. Details later.

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MAY FIELD TRIP will be taken to McCoy's ranch near Livermore provided transportation can be had. All members who have automobiles and are willing to help make this trip possible are asked to please send their name and number of persons they can carry to C. A. Bryant, Room 1011, 65 Market St., San Francisco, not later than May 1st.

This should be a very interesting trip. Gnatcatchers, phainopepla, lazuli buntings, house wrens, kingbirds, Lawrence goldfinches and several other species nest here.

The date and other details will be published in the April Gull.

Guests will be welcome but will have to furnish their own transportation.

Members who wish to make the trip but have no automobiles please send in their names to the above address so that transportation arrangements can be made.

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THE STATE BIRD CAMPAIGN

The contest to select by popular vote a bird to be an emblem of California as its official State Bird started rather slowly a little over a year ago. Now we are making a whirlwind closing of the campaign. Interest is increasing daily. Votes are coming in by the hundreds. From now till June, the time set by the State Bird Committee for the closing of the ballot, votes will pour in faster than the committee can tabulate them.

Through the courtesy of KGO at Oakland, I have been on the air each Thursday evening at 6:30 since November 1928, for a fifteen to twenty minute broadcast concerning birds and this campaign. The popular response has been very gratifying. Requests are daily coming in for information. Fifty thousand ballots have been printed, lists and instructions have been mimeo-

graphed so that any group or organization can be easily supplied with all material necessary to participate in the State Bird election.

Mrs. G. E. Trask of Sonora, Chairman of Birds and Wild Life of the Alameda District Federated Womens Clubs is co-operating and through her County chairmen will bring this campaign to the attention of every club in the five Counties of this District. I expect a like response from the three other Districts C. F. W. C. in Northern California. There are 28,000 clubwomen in these four Districts.

Under the auspices of the Audubon Association of the Pacific I arranged a Bird and Arbor Day program which was presented over KGO from 6:30 to 7:30 P. M. March 7. All school Superintendents in this part of California had notice of this program and were asked to make special announcement of it to the schools under their jurisdiction.

Mrs. F. T. Bicknell, the originator of this campaign and State Chairman for the contest, reports a like enthusiasm in Southern California.

Some one bird will win a signed honor but all our birds will be benefited by the resulting wave of popular sentiment.

Fellow Audubonite, have the schools, the Clubs, the organizations in your locality voted?

Let me supply you with materials necessary to take care of them.

Bert Harwell, President,
Chairman State Bird Committee for
Northern California.

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CENSUS OF BIRDS' NESTS IN THE MUSIC CONCOURSE, GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, 1928

The best time in which to take the annual census of the birds' nests in the trees of the Music Concourse in Golden Gate Park is obviously the earliest moment at which practically all the leaves have cleared the trees. This, however, is a somewhat variable date, depending almost entirely upon weather conditions such as temperatures, rains and winds. Usually it is not until some time in December that the leaves have been shed and that those that lodged in close clumps of branches and sprouts have been blown away. The time that this takes place depends upon whether there have been early or late frosts to wither the leaves and enough wind to dislodge those that are caught by the branches, particularly where there are clumps of sprouts resulting from the sawing off in the pruning of large limbs. Sometimes sufficient frost occurs in late November, while in other years there will be no frost at all until near Christmas time.

Unfortunately, the prevailing epidemic of influenza included me among its victims with a grip that lasted for many weeks, and it was not until early in February that I was sufficiently recovered to take this census. At this late date the nests were in such bad shape that accurate identification of the species of the builders was not attempted. In many cases it was impossible to determine whether an apparently unused nest had been robbed of its contents, had been deserted when finished or, possibly abandoned before finishing.

The number of nests discoverable was not affected by the postponement of the census taking, as none had decayed sufficiently to make it unrecognizable as a nest of *some* species of bird.

The result of the investigation was as follows: Brood raised, 8; evidently robbed (broken bits of shell found), 2; deserted, or (possibly) robbed, 8; contained remains of adult bird (English Sparrow), 1; unfinished, 5; not determinable as to status, 2. Total, 26.

Joseph Mailliard, California Academy of Sciences.

THE FEBRUARY FIELD TRIP was taken on Sunday, the 17th. The party traveled by bus from San Francisco to Easton Drive, Burlingame. Thence the party continued on foot along Easton Drive and up through Burlingame Hills to the top of the ridge where luncheon was eaten. After luncheon, the party continued down to and along the flume to San Andreas dam, then along the shore of the lake for some distance, finally climbing the hill and following along the Skyline Boulevard and down the road which leads back to Uncle Tom's Cabin on the main highway.

Some birding was done in the settlement along the streets which cross Easton Drive. It is interesting to notice how many species as well as individuals prefer to live near human beings. Here cedar waxwings, varied thrushes, juncos, spotted towhees, golden-crowned sparrows, robins, hummingbirds and Audubon warblers seemed at home.

The creeper, brown thrasher and Canada geese were absent on this trip, but as a partial compensation, white-throated swifts did their part. Loons and American mergansers on San Andreas Lake attracted much attention. A western grebe with wings closed and body entirely clear of the water, except for its feet, darted for some distance over the surface like a torpedo.

In spite of the cold weather, dark and windy, a good number of observers and birds were out.

Birds observed were: Common and Pacific loons; western and pied-billed grebes; California great blue heron; mallard, canvas-back and lesser scaup ducks, white-winged scoter, ruddy duck, American merganser; northern turkey vulture, western red-tailed and desert sparrowhawks; coast California quail; American coot, northern killdeer, spotted sandpiper; white-throated swift; Anna and Allen hummingbirds; Monterey red-shafted flicker, willow downy woodpecker; Rocky Mountain Say and black phoebes; California horned lark; southern California jay; Santa Cruz chestnut-backed chickadee, California plain titmouse, Pacific Coast bush-tit, intermediate wren-tit; Vigor's Bewick wren; western robin, coast varied and dwarf-hermit thrushes, western Mexican bluebird; western ruby-crowned kinglet; American pipit; cedar waxwing, Pacific Audubon warbler; western meadowlark, Brewer blackbird; California purple finch, California linnet, northern pine siskin, San Francisco spotted and brown towhees, western savannah and Fox sparrows, Point Pinos Oregon junco, golden-, Nuttall white-crowned and Santa Cruz song sparrows. Fifty-three species.

Members in attendance were: Mesdames Myer, Stephens; Misses Cohen, Clelia Paroni, Petit. Dr. Card; Messrs. Bryant, Elmore, deFremery, Lockerbie, Myer.

Guests: Mesdames Mott, Sheldon, Simpkins, Van Horn. Misses Frank, Camilla Paroni. Messrs. Bidinger, Cahen, Direksen, Merrow, Smith, Stephens. Eleven members and twelve guests.

C. A. Bryant, Historian.

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

FOR THE STUDY AND THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

President	Bert Harwell	2626 Haste St., Berkeley
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Bessie W. Kibbe	Room 510, Russ Bldg., San Francisco
Corresponding Secretary	C. B. Lastreto	260 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer	Mrs. A. B. Stephens	1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Meets second Thursday of each month at 8:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the State Board of Harbor Commissioners, Ferry Building, Second Floor, Room 19.

Address Bulletin correspondence to the Corresponding Secretary.

Subscription to Bulletin alone, 35c per year. Membership dues, payable January 1, $3.00 per year.